

# News

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## **HIGHLIGHTS OF HOUSTON-GALVESTON-BRAZORIA, TX NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY DECEMBER 2000**

Workers in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, Texas, metropolitan area averaged \$18.18 per hour during December 2000, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Bob Gaddie reported that white-collar workers averaged \$22.53 per hour and accounted for 56 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$14.11 per hour and represented 27 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 17 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$9.32 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for all occupations in establishments with 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal government. This NCS covered 613 firms representing 925,200 workers in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria metropolitan area, which includes Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties in Texas. Seventy-seven percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 115 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, chemical engineers averaged \$38.67 per hour; registered nurses, \$23.32; and social workers, \$14.97. Blue-collar occupations included electricians at \$21.13 per hour; welders and cutters at \$13.07; and bus drivers at \$13.76. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$19.38 per hour; cooks, \$8.38; and janitors and cleaners, \$7.40.

## National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000 (continued)

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria area averaged \$19.16 per hour and part-timers earned \$7.95. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$19.09 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$12.70. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$15.30 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$20.11.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

### **Survey Availability**

Complete survey results are contained in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX National Compensation Survey December 2000 (Bulletin 3110-15). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Dallas Information Office by calling 214-767-6970. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Dallas by dialing 214-767-9613 and requesting documents 9530 and 9531.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Dallas Information Office at 214-767-6970 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

**Table 1. Mean hourly earnings(1), all workers(2): Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000**

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$18.18	2.7	\$17.91	3.3	\$19.20	2.8
All excluding sales .....	18.34	2.7	18.07	3.5	19.24	2.8
<b>White collar</b> .....	22.53	2.6	22.65	3.3	22.14	3.2
White collar excluding sales .....	23.55	2.4	24.10	3.1	22.22	3.2
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	28.00	2.8	28.94	3.9	26.46	3.2
Professional specialty .....	29.62	2.6	31.20	3.8	27.58	3.0
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	34.41	5.1	34.41	5.1	—	—
Chemical engineers .....	38.67	7.9	38.67	7.9	—	—
Civil engineers .....	35.17	7.1	35.17	7.1	—	—
Industrial engineers .....	32.78	6.6	32.78	6.6	—	—
Mechanical engineers .....	33.36	7.6	33.36	7.6	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c. ....	35.84	6.4	35.84	6.4	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	28.82	5.1	29.02	5.2	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists .....	28.82	5.3	29.03	5.5	—	—
Natural scientists .....	24.94	11.1	27.97	13.4	—	—
Geologists and geodesists .....	36.62	10.6	36.62	10.6	—	—
Health related .....	24.47	2.4	23.95	2.2	25.35	4.8
Registered nurses .....	23.32	1.7	22.92	1.7	24.02	3.6
Pharmacists .....	32.83	2.8	32.41	2.8	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	43.02	11.2	—	—	42.91	11.6
Other post-secondary teachers .....	53.68	13.0	—	—	53.72	13.0
Teachers, except college and university .....	27.29	1.4	21.04	9.3	27.59	1.3
Elementary school teachers .....	27.55	1.0	—	—	27.60	1.0
Secondary school teachers .....	27.84	1.7	—	—	27.86	1.7
Teachers, n.e.c. ....	24.52	7.0	17.40	18.5	26.27	3.6
Vocational and educational counselors .....	28.97	7.6	—	—	29.46	7.5
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	21.07	18.3	—	—	21.13	20.6
Librarians .....	21.07	18.3	—	—	21.13	20.6
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	15.26	6.2	15.18	15.6	15.29	6.4
Social workers .....	14.97	5.8	—	—	15.29	6.4
Lawyers and judges .....	50.87	25.7	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	30.11	12.5	30.79	13.2	—	—
Designers .....	23.62	19.0	23.62	19.0	—	—
Technical .....	21.97	8.6	23.21	9.5	16.01	10.6
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians .....	17.27	8.3	17.24	8.5	—	—
Radiological technicians .....	22.77	22.7	—	—	—	—
Licensed practical nurses .....	14.89	1.9	15.07	2.2	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c. ....	16.50	5.1	16.69	5.0	—	—
Electrical and electronic technicians .....	21.62	8.4	—	—	—	—
Engineering technicians, n.e.c. ....	21.35	9.8	22.25	11.0	—	—
Drafters .....	28.02	8.3	28.02	8.3	—	—
Airplane pilots and navigators .....	88.38	27.8	88.38	27.8	—	—
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	32.85	3.4	34.00	3.6	27.59	7.3
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	35.95	4.0	38.30	4.2	28.88	7.4
Administrators and officials, public administration .....	25.96	13.9	—	—	25.91	14.0
Financial managers .....	38.24	12.4	38.89	12.9	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations .....	41.19	7.3	41.19	7.3	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields .....	35.67	5.4	—	—	35.76	5.6
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	38.35	5.7	40.14	5.3	—	—
Management related .....	27.28	5.7	27.87	5.8	16.89	6.1
Accountants and auditors .....	25.49	3.6	25.49	3.6	—	—
Other financial officers .....	31.75	12.1	31.75	12.1	—	—
Management analysts .....	32.13	5.7	32.13	5.7	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists .....	23.18	16.4	24.44	18.2	—	—
Purchasing agents and buyers, n.e.c. ....	24.96	16.6	30.07	7.5	—	—
Management related, n.e.c. ....	22.71	4.7	22.91	4.9	—	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	16.46	10.7	16.54	10.7	—	—
Supervisors, sales .....	22.87	10.4	22.87	10.4	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Mean hourly earnings(1), all workers(2): Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000 — Continued**

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>White collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Sales —Continued</b>						
Advertising and related sales .....	\$25.12	11.3	\$25.12	11.3	—	—
Sales, other business services .....	19.36	13.5	19.36	13.5	—	—
Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale .....	26.09	8.6	26.09	8.6	—	—
Sales workers, motor vehicles and boats .....	12.08	11.9	12.08	11.9	—	—
Sales workers, parts .....	17.30	5.9	17.30	5.9	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities .....	9.19	10.2	9.19	10.2	—	—
Sales counter clerks .....	13.03	19.0	13.03	19.0	—	—
Cashiers .....	7.16	3.6	7.05	3.5	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical .....</b>	13.05	2.4	13.50	2.9	\$11.63	2.4
Supervisors, general office .....	15.63	7.1	—	—	—	—
Supervisors, distribution, scheduling, and adjusting clerks .....	20.98	9.5	20.98	9.5	—	—
Computer operators .....	15.74	11.0	15.74	11.0	—	—
Secretaries .....	15.03	4.1	15.87	4.5	12.60	4.4
Interviewers .....	12.28	12.8	—	—	—	—
Transportation ticket and reservation agents .....	14.95	19.2	14.95	19.2	—	—
Receptionists .....	10.65	4.5	10.64	4.8	—	—
Information clerks, n.e.c. ....	12.31	9.3	—	—	—	—
Order clerks .....	14.23	9.7	14.23	9.7	—	—
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping .....	14.68	10.2	14.68	10.2	—	—
Library clerks .....	9.18	8.2	—	—	9.11	9.0
File clerks .....	11.71	5.1	11.84	5.1	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c. ....	12.73	5.5	12.85	9.8	12.62	5.5
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	12.81	4.1	12.84	4.4	—	—
Dispatchers .....	14.00	12.3	—	—	—	—
Production coordinators .....	16.71	9.0	17.18	8.8	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	11.56	10.9	11.38	11.6	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks .....	10.04	7.0	10.35	8.5	—	—
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators .....	15.36	6.6	15.36	6.6	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance .....	14.80	9.9	14.91	10.2	—	—
General office clerks .....	11.69	4.5	12.18	6.6	10.91	4.0
Data entry keyers .....	11.16	5.5	11.16	5.5	—	—
Teachers' aides .....	10.38	1.2	—	—	10.38	1.2
Administrative support, n.e.c. ....	12.72	5.3	12.89	7.2	12.32	5.3
<b>Blue collar .....</b>	14.11	4.0	14.20	4.3	13.04	3.8
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair .....</b>	18.88	3.7	19.23	3.9	15.01	6.0
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers .....	25.85	11.4	27.61	11.4	—	—
Automobile mechanics .....	20.43	9.2	20.80	9.1	—	—
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics .....	14.88	4.5	—	—	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers .....	15.73	8.8	15.73	9.0	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	18.05	9.1	18.76	10.3	—	—
Electricians .....	21.13	4.1	21.87	3.9	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters .....	16.45	9.6	17.51	9.8	—	—
Construction trades, n.e.c. ....	9.20	7.7	8.82	8.1	—	—
Supervisors, production .....	25.98	9.5	28.01	7.3	—	—
Machinists .....	18.48	4.5	18.48	4.5	—	—
Butchers and meat cutters .....	11.64	10.8	11.64	10.8	—	—
Inspectors, testers, and graders .....	16.90	8.2	16.90	8.2	—	—
Miscellaneous plant and system operators, n.e.c. ....	24.91	1.6	24.91	1.6	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....</b>	11.59	6.5	11.58	6.6	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	14.65	11.7	14.65	11.7	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	13.07	6.7	13.07	6.7	—	—
Assemblers .....	8.03	10.2	8.03	10.2	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	13.41	9.8	13.40	10.0	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving .....</b>	13.52	5.7	13.66	6.4	12.45	3.9

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Mean hourly earnings(1), all workers(2): Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000 — Continued**

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Transportation and material moving —Continued</b>						
Truck drivers .....	\$13.88	7.6	\$14.03	7.7	—	—
Bus drivers .....	13.76	6.0	—	—	\$12.98	3.9
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	10.09	4.9	10.09	4.9	—	—
Miscellaneous material moving equipment operators, n.e.c. ....	17.76	12.3	18.28	11.8	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>						
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm .....	10.33	6.2	—	—	10.43	6.5
Helpers, mechanics and repairers .....	11.17	9.0	11.63	11.4	—	—
Helpers, construction trades .....	10.52	4.6	—	—	—	—
Construction laborers .....	8.20	7.3	—	—	—	—
Production helpers .....	10.47	14.6	10.47	14.6	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	7.35	5.1	7.35	5.1	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	9.79	14.8	9.79	14.8	—	—
Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners .....	9.13	8.9	9.01	9.3	—	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	8.28	5.3	8.28	5.3	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	9.88	11.5	9.77	13.1	10.73	13.0
<b>Service</b>						
Protective service .....	14.48	7.0	—	—	16.75	4.1
Police and detectives, public service .....	19.38	4.3	—	—	19.38	4.3
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers .....	17.90	2.6	—	—	17.90	2.6
Correctional institution officers .....	11.78	2.3	—	—	11.78	2.3
Guards and police, except public service .....	9.56	7.0	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	6.42	4.6	6.11	4.9	8.86	3.9
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	3.69	13.0	3.69	13.0	—	—
Waiters and waitresses .....	3.11	11.9	3.11	11.9	—	—
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants .....	5.49	7.6	5.49	7.6	—	—
Other food service .....	7.83	4.3	7.62	5.0	8.86	3.9
Cooks .....	8.38	7.2	8.38	7.2	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation .....	7.10	3.4	7.00	3.4	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	7.22	6.7	6.11	5.5	9.07	2.7
Health service .....	8.96	6.5	7.83	8.6	10.93	4.3
Health aides, except nursing .....	10.79	5.8	8.89	11.4	11.46	7.6
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	8.19	8.1	7.57	9.4	10.28	5.0
Cleaning and building service .....	7.21	5.9	6.73	6.8	9.06	4.3
Maids and housemen .....	6.36	3.1	6.35	3.2	—	—
Janitors and cleaners .....	7.40	7.5	6.82	9.1	9.08	4.4
Personal service .....	12.33	14.2	13.61	19.6	10.05	6.4
Early childhood teachers' assistants .....	9.07	3.6	—	—	9.09	3.7
Service, n.e.c. ....	8.78	20.7	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

<sup>2</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>4</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

**Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings(1) by occupational group(2), National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Part-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Union <sup>4</sup>	Nonunion <sup>4</sup>	Time <sup>5</sup>	Incentive <sup>5</sup>
	Mean					
<b>All occupations</b> .....	\$19.16	\$7.95	\$20.08	\$18.00	\$18.12	\$19.83
All excluding sales .....	19.21	8.17	20.08	18.16	18.33	18.79
<b>White collar</b> .....	23.25	10.60	24.01	22.47	22.62	20.77
White-collar excluding sales .....	23.91	13.81	24.78	23.51	23.53	28.83
Professional specialty and technical .....	28.29	19.12	51.87	27.51	28.00	—
Professional specialty .....	29.89	20.35	—	29.62	29.62	—
Technical .....	22.25	16.40	51.87	18.85	21.97	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	32.86	—	—	32.85	32.80	—
Sales .....	18.59	6.90	19.86	16.33	14.57	20.16
Administrative support, including clerical .....	13.23	10.22	15.43	12.87	13.06	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	14.56	7.11	19.09	12.70	14.08	15.61
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	19.04	—	22.00	17.45	18.90	17.83
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	11.60	—	16.83	10.83	11.59	—
Transportation and material moving .....	14.09	—	17.13	12.20	13.44	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	9.81	6.67	12.87	8.72	9.29	—
<b>Service</b> .....	10.44	6.07	17.49	8.95	9.32	—
	Relative error <sup>6</sup> (percent)					
<b>All occupations</b> .....	2.7	4.5	6.0	2.8	2.7	18.3
All excluding sales .....	2.7	5.3	6.0	2.9	2.7	15.9
<b>White collar</b> .....	2.6	5.4	17.3	2.6	2.5	21.1
White-collar excluding sales .....	2.4	6.8	19.9	2.4	2.4	26.3
Professional specialty and technical .....	2.8	6.2	29.7	2.6	2.8	—
Professional specialty .....	2.7	7.6	—	2.6	2.6	—
Technical .....	8.9	5.5	29.7	4.3	8.6	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	3.4	—	—	3.4	3.4	—
Sales .....	11.1	3.9	25.6	11.0	7.2	23.0
Administrative support, including clerical .....	2.4	5.2	12.1	2.1	2.4	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	4.2	5.7	4.3	4.2	4.1	9.2
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	3.6	—	4.3	4.3	3.8	13.5
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	6.6	—	7.2	6.7	6.5	—
Transportation and material moving .....	4.7	—	5.2	7.8	6.3	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	5.3	4.6	9.9	4.9	4.7	—
<b>Service</b> .....	4.6	5.1	20.3	4.4	4.5	—

<sup>1</sup> Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>3</sup> Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

<sup>4</sup> Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

<sup>5</sup> Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

<sup>6</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

**Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings(1) by occupational group(2), private industry, National Compensation Survey, Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX, December 2000**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers <sup>3</sup>	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
<b>All occupations</b> .....	\$17.91	\$15.30	\$18.45	\$16.16	\$20.11
All excluding sales .....	18.07	14.52	18.72	16.20	20.36
<b>White collar</b> .....	22.65	19.85	23.18	21.10	24.52
White-collar excluding sales .....	24.10	20.43	24.62	23.19	25.33
Professional specialty and technical .....	28.94	27.40	29.05	27.70	29.67
Professional specialty .....	31.20	30.01	31.29	30.40	31.74
Technical .....	23.21	20.49	23.42	18.60	25.04
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	34.00	30.52	34.53	32.98	35.15
Sales .....	16.54	18.82	15.56	15.95	14.59
Administrative support, including clerical .....	13.50	13.24	13.55	14.30	13.10
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	14.20	12.44	14.59	12.64	16.21
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	19.23	15.00	20.18	17.89	21.58
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	11.58	10.92	11.71	11.36	12.07
Transportation and material moving .....	13.66	13.28	13.79	12.66	14.25
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	9.16	8.54	9.29	8.69	10.19
<b>Service</b> .....	7.42	6.43	7.65	6.92	8.29
	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)				
<b>All occupations</b> .....	3.3	9.0	3.6	5.4	4.9
All excluding sales .....	3.5	6.9	3.9	6.1	5.0
<b>White collar</b> .....	3.3	12.0	3.3	5.2	4.2
White-collar excluding sales .....	3.1	8.0	3.2	5.6	3.9
Professional specialty and technical .....	3.9	8.4	4.1	7.7	4.9
Professional specialty .....	3.8	9.4	4.1	8.1	4.6
Technical .....	9.5	15.5	10.1	5.9	12.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	3.6	9.8	3.8	6.6	4.6
Sales .....	10.7	28.4	7.8	8.6	16.7
Administrative support, including clerical .....	2.9	6.2	3.2	5.8	3.4
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	4.3	7.4	5.0	5.5	7.9
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	3.9	10.4	4.0	6.3	5.0
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	6.6	7.9	7.6	6.7	14.3
Transportation and material moving .....	6.4	13.0	7.5	10.0	9.7
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	5.2	5.8	6.0	7.5	11.2
<b>Service</b> .....	4.8	12.8	5.3	6.2	8.5

<sup>1</sup> Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>3</sup> Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

<sup>4</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.